GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4265
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
REDUCTION IN ISD CALL
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to reduce rate of international call of VSNL, particularly India-US, is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this proposal is being considered under the pressure of US multi-nationals; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to para (a) above.

(c)&(d): International accounting rates are mutually decided by the operating companies on either side (in the case of India, VSNL being the Operator). VSNL has informed that they have been approached by their US counterparts for reduction in the international accounting rate commensurate with the market trend. The operators themselves will decide the issue taking into account all relevant considerations.